(C), an aging inhibitor (D), an aggregating agent for colloidal particles (E) and a germicide, fungicide and preservative (F);

wherein either a hydrophobic group is bound via a glycoside linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) and said component (A) is at a concentration of 0.0001 to 0.1 percent by weight of said composition,

a hydrophobic group is bound via an ester linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A), or

a hydrophobic group is bound via an amide linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A).

6. (Amended) A method of preserving a plant with keeping the freshness thereof, said method comprising:

applying an effective amount of a plant freshness-keeping composition, wherein said plant freshness-keeping composition comprises at least one surfactant (A), wherein said surfactant has a sugar structure or a sugar alcohol structure, and at least one selected from the group consisting of a sugar (B), a plant hormone (C), an aging inhibitor (D), an aggregating agent for colloidal particles (E) and a germicide, fungicide and preservative (F).

7. (Twice Amended) A method of using a composition for preserving a plant with keeping the freshness thereof, comprising the steps of:

D3 a) obtaining a sample comprising said composition, where said composition is in the form of aqueous solution or powder; and

b) applying said sample onto the plant;

wherein said plant freshness-keeping composition comprises at least one surfactant (A), wherein said surfactant has a sugar structure or a sugar alcohol structure, and at least one selected from the group consisting of a sugar (B), a plant hormone (C), an aging inhibitor (D), an aggregating agent for colloidal particles (E) and a germicide, fungicide and preservative (F).

D4 16. (Amended) The composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the component (A) having the hydrophobic group bound via the glycoside linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) is selected from the group consisting of: an alkyl glycoside, an alkyl polyglycoside, a polyoxyalkylene alkyl (poly)glycoside, an alkyl (poly)glycoside sulfate comprising an alkyl (poly)glucoside sulfated therein, a phosphated alkyl (poly)glycoside, a glyceryl etherified alkyl (poly)glycoside, a sulfosuccinated alkyl (poly)glycoside, a glyceryl-esterified alkyl (poly)glycoside, a carboxy-alkylated alkyl (poly)glycoside, a cationic alkyl (poly)glycoside, and a betaine

alkyl (poly)glycoside, wherein the hydrophobic group is a C_{8-18} group, which is any one of saturated, unsaturated, linear and branched groups.

17. (Amended) The composition as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the component (A) having the hydrophobic group bound via the ester linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) is selected from the group consisting of: a sorbitan fatty acid ester, a polyoxyalkylene sorbitan fatty acid ester, a sucrose fatty acid ester, a sorbitol fatty acid ester, a polyoxyalkylene sorbitol fatty acid ester, a polyglycerol, a polyglycerol fatty acid ester, a glycerol fatty acid ester and a polyoxyalkylene glycerol fatty acid ester.

Please add the following claims:

27. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein either a hydrophobic group is bound via a glycoside linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) and said component (A) is at a concentration of 0.0001 to 0.1 percent by weight of said composition,

a hydrophobic group is bound via an ester linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A), or

a hydrophobic group is bound via an amide linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A).

28. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein either a hydrophobic group is bound via a glycoside linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) and said component (A) is at a concentration of 0.0001 to 0.1 percent by weight of said composition,

a hydrophobic group is bound via an ester linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A), or

a hydrophobic group is bound via an amide linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A).

29. (New) The plant freshness-keeping composition of claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic group is bound via the ester linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A), and said component (A) is at a concentration of 0.0001 to 0.1 percent by weight of said composition.

30. (New) The plant freshness-keeping composition of claim 1, wherein said hydrophobic group is bound via the amide linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A), and said component (A) is at a concentration of 0.0001 to 0.1 percent by weight of said composition.

31. (New) The composition as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the component (A) having the hydrophobic group bound via the glycoside

linkage to the sugar or sugar alcohol in the component (A) is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl glycoside and an alkyl polyglycoside.